



U.S. Small Business Administration  
March 2004

# Bank Notes

## A Newsletter for South Texas Lenders

Issue #24

**Sylvia G. Zamponi**  
District Director

**Harlingen District Office**  
(956) 427-8533  
Ext 231

**Corpus Christi Branch Office**  
(361) 879-0017  
Ext 30

**SBA Expo 04**  
**Orange County Convention Center,**  
**Orlando, Fl.**  
**May 19th – May 21<sup>st</sup>.**  
**Visit**  
[www.sba.gov/50](http://www.sba.gov/50)

We're on the Web!  
[www.sba.gov/tx/harlingen](http://www.sba.gov/tx/harlingen)

**Newsletter Contact:**  
**Debbie.fernandez**  
[@sba.gov](mailto:debbie.fernandez@sba.gov) or at  
(361) 879-0017,  
x30

### President Bush Signs Bill Boosting Small Business Loans by More Than \$3 Billion

WASHINGTON – President George W. Bush signed legislation Monday that will increase loan authority for the U.S. Small Business Administration's flagship 7(a) loan program by more than \$3 billion. The 30 percent increase in small business loans for the current year will allow the SBA to lift a three-month-old cap of \$750,000 on 7(a) loans and drop restrictions on piggyback loans. The new law increases the 7(a) program's lending authority for this year to \$12.5 billion, allowing the program to reach up to 90,000 small businesses in fiscal year 2004, creating or retaining up to 500,000 jobs for hard-working Americans. The legislation also allows the SBA to immediately remove the \$750,000 cap on 7(a) loans, returning it to its previous \$2 million level, and allows the SBA to raise the maximum guaranty on loans up to \$2 million to 75 percent. In addition, SBA Express lenders may now approve SBA Express loans up to \$2.0 million using existing SBA Express procedures. Piggyback loans will once again be allowed. The legislation reauthorizes the 504 loan program and sets authorization levels for the Small Business Investment Company program through the end of the fiscal year. The changes are effective starting April 5, 2004 and will expire on September 30, 2004 unless extended by subsequent legislation. Go to <http://www.sba.gov/banking/0000-1727.doc> to view the SBA Policy Notice on the changes or call the Harlingen District or Corpus Christi Branch Office.

### Fiscal Year 2004 – March 31, 2004 Harlingen District Top Volume Lenders

1. Innovative Bank	55	\$431,000
2. American Bank, N.A., CC, TX	19	\$2,335,500
3. Capital One, FSB	13	\$445,000
4. JP Morgan Chase	10	\$709,300
5. Wells Fargo Bank	7	\$563,600
6. Lone Star National Bank	5	\$1,167,500
6. McAllen National Bank	5	\$1,000,000
7. Alamo Bank of Texas	4	\$403,000
7. Bank of America	4	\$285,500
8. US Bank, N.A.	3	\$823,500
8. ValueBank Texas, CC, TX	3	\$325,000
8. Texas State Bank	3	\$209,000
9. 1 <sup>st</sup> Community Bank, CC, TX	2	\$963,750
9. Texas Certified Development Co.	2	\$701,000
9. Greater East Texas CDC	2	\$595,000
9. Brownsville LDC	2	\$226,000
9. Frost National Bank	2	\$128,500

Welcome to  
Bank of  
America,  
ValueBank  
Texas &  
Greater East  
TX CDC to  
the list of top  
volume  
lenders!

### Special Points of Interest!

- 📅 **April 21<sup>st</sup> (9:00 am)** – Harlingen SBA Lender Roundtable, SBA Office
- 📅 **April 22<sup>nd</sup> (9:00 am)** – Corpus Christi Lender Roundtable, SBA Office
- 📅 **April 29<sup>th</sup> (8:45 am – 11:30 am)** – Comprehensive Lender Training – Del Mar College SBDC, Corpus Christi, TX
- 📅 **May 11<sup>th</sup> & May 12<sup>th</sup>** – Small Business Week Luncheons in Corpus Christi, TX & Harlingen, TX respectively. More details to come.